Prevention of fresh encroachment and coming up of new slums in Delhi

459. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report appearing in the Statesman of 20th January, 1990 regarding hectic building up of new slums with Government's announcement to provide ration cards to the slum dwellers in Delhi and the manner in which public and private land is being grabbed with police connivance under religious cover ; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government in regard thereto and the measures contemplated by Government to prevent fresh encroachment on public and private land and coming up of new slums in the city ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) While the press report has come to the notice of the Government, there is no authentic information to indicate the Govt. policy to issue ration cards to the jhuggi dwellers has resulted in fresh influx and unauthorised construction/ encroachment. Reports of connivance are also not substantiated.

It is the firm policy of the Govt. not to permit fresh unauthorised construction/ encroachment. Public agencies have been directed to maintain strict vigil and take preventive action. Under instructions of Lt. Governor, Delhi, a Control Room has also started functioning to facilitate prompt reporting of unauthorised construction/encroachment by the public.

As a long term measure to minimise im-migration to Delhi, Regional Plan for the National Capital Region has also been drawn up and notified.

Initiating of a Crash Programme to provide developmental package of benefit to SC/ST

460. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have initiated a Crash Programme to provide developmental package of benefits to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ; and

(c) by when the programme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A crash programme was launched to provide 11,000 of the most backward SC/ST hamlets with 40 households (200 persons or more) in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Predesh and West Bengal with the following package of benefits :—

(i) A handpump or open well for drinking water in the basti or village.

(ii) A school building, if there is no primary school in vicinity of the hamlet. The building will be used to set up a primary school or a non-formal education centre and the cost of construction will be met out of funds under the Jawahar Rojgar Yojna.

(iii) Street lighting with at least three lights and a single light connection to each of the poorest households under the Kutir Jyoti Programme.

(iv) Irrigation wells to small and marginal farmers belonging to SC/ST who do not have irrigation facilities.